EXCERPTS FROM THE DEPOSITION OF ELON MUSK TAKEN NOVEMBER 5, 2021

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Page 1
 1
                   UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
                  NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
                       SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
     IN RE TESLA, INC. SECURITIES) Case No.
 4
     LITIGATION
                                  ) 3:18-cv-04865-EMC
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 8
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10
                            CONFIDENTIAL
11
                 ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
12
                              ELON MUSK
                          NOVEMBER 5, 2021
13
14
15
          ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF ELON MUSK,
16
     produced as a witness at the instance of the Plaintiff,
17
     and duly sworn, was taken in the above-styled and
     numbered cause on November 5, 2021, from 10:32 a.m. to
18
     8:04 p.m., before Candice Andino, Certified Shorthand
19
20
     Reporter in and for the State of Texas, reported by
21
     machine shorthand, at Armbrust & Brown, PLLC, 100
     Congress Avenue, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas, pursuant to
22
     Notice and in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
23
24
     Procedure.
25
     JOB NO. 202221
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Page 2
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                 APPEARANCES
 2
     FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:
          LEVI & KORSINSKY
               MR. NICHOLAS PORRITT
               MS. ELIZABETH TRIPODI
 4
               MS. KATHY AMES VALDIVIESO
 5
          1101 30th Street N.W.
          Washington, DC 20007
 6
 7
 8
     FOR THE DEFENDANTS:
 9
          COOLEY
10
          BY: MR. STEPHEN NEAL
          3175 Hanover Street
          Palo Alto, California 94304
11
12
13
    ALSO PRESENT:
14
          CASEY MUMMERT, Videographer
          CANDACE JACKMAN, Tesla in-house counsel
15
16
          JOSHUA WALDEN (appearing telephonically)
17
18
19
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21
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23
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1	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2021, 10:32 A.M.
2	AUSTIN, TEXAS
3	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. This is
4	the start of media labeled Number 1 of the video
5	recorded deposition of Mr. Elon Musk, in the matter in
6	re Tesla, Inc. Securities Litigation, in the US District
7	Court Northern District of California, San Francisco
8	Division, No. 3:18-cv-04865-EMC.
9	This deposition is being held at the law
10	offices of Armbrust & Brown on November 5th, 2021, at
11	approximately 10:32 a.m.
12	My name is Casey Mummert. I'm the legal
13	video specialist from TSG Reporting, Inc. headquartered
14	in 228 East 45th Street, Suite 810, New York, New York
15	10017.
16	The court reporter is Candice Andino in
17	association with TSG Reporting.
18	Counsel, please introduce yourselves.
19	MR. PORRITT: Excuse me. Nicholas Porritt
20	of the firm of Levi & Korsinsky on behalf of the
21	Plaintiff and the Class.
22	MS. AMES VALDIVIESO: Kathy Ames on behalf
23	of Plaintiff.
24	MS. TRIPODI: And Elizabeth Tripodi with
25	Levi & Korsinsky on behalf of Plaintiff.

Page 8 1 And I'm Stephen Neal of Cooley MR. NEAL: representing Mr. Musk and the other defendants in this 3 case. 4 MS. JACKMAN: Candace Jackman, in-house 5 counsel with Tesla. 6 (Witness sworn.) 7 THE WITNESS: I do. 8 ELON MUSK, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified 9 10 as follows: 11 EXAMINATION 12 BY MR. PORRITT: 13 0. Good morning, Mr. Musk. Good morning. 14 Α. 15 As you just heard, my name is Nicholas Porritt. Q. I'm one of the counsel for the plaintiffs in this 16 17 matter. 18 Α. Okay. 19 I'll be taking your deposition today. I know 20 you've been deposed before, but I'll just quickly go over a couple of ground rules just to -- just to make 21 22 sure we're all on the same page. Excuse me. 23 One is we are creating a written record. 24 You can see Candice here is writing down what I say and 25 will write down what you say. So, with that in mind,

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Page 89
 1
     what was that? Yeah, we're off the record. Yeah, let's
     go off the record.
 3
                   THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 12:48.
                                                            Wе
 4
     are off the record.
 5
                   (A lunch recess was taken from 12:48 p.m.
 6
                    to 1:40 p.m.)
 7
                   THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 1:40.
                                                           Wе
     are on the record.
 8
 9
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Welcome back, Mr. Musk.
          Q.
10
              Yeah.
          Α.
              On July 31st, 2018, you met with
11
     representatives of the Saudi Arabia PIF at the Tesla
12
13
     Fremont Factory?
14
          Α.
              Sorry. Is this related to an exhibit or
15
     just --
16
              No, no. I'm just starting.
          Ο.
17
              Can you say that again.
          Α.
18
          Q.
              Yes.
                   On July 31st, 2018, you met with
19
     representatives of the Saudi Arabia PIF at the Tesla
20
21
     Fremont Factory?
22
          Α.
              Yes.
23
          Q. Okay. Meeting was in the evening?
24
             Yes.
          Α.
25
              Okay. Did you do anything to prepare for that
          Q.
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- 1 A. I don't recall the exact number of
- 2 representatives, but there was Yasir, and there were at
- 3 least a few others.
- Q. Okay. And it was you and Sam Teller at the
- 5 beginning and then Deepak Ahuja joined midway through?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And the meeting lasted approximately
- 8 30 minutes; is that correct?
- 9 A. I'm not sure of the exact time, but -- but it
- may have been longer than 30 minutes, but 30 minutes to
- 11 an hour.
- 12 Q. Okay. So less than an hour, maybe more than
- 13 30 minutes?
- 14 A. Something like that.
- 15 Q. Okay. In the meeting, you -- you talked about
- 16 current Tesla performance?
- 17 A. At the meeting, we talked about primarily
- 18 the -- the idea of taking Tesla private. That was the
- 19 primary subject of discussion continuing on prior
- 20 discussions to that effect. They informed me that they
- 21 had followed through with taking a 5 percent stake in
- 22 Tesla, and I was, like, Well, this is great.
- So based on a verbal discussion and a
- 24 verbal agreement and no discussion of price, they
- 25 went -- they moved forward and took a 5 percent stake in

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Which I think comes out about to be the
- 3 same level, once you take out --
- 4 A. Yeah.
- 5 O. So...
- 6 Was it clear that the PIF were assuming
- 7 that other investors would not participate in this
- 8 going-private transaction?
- 9 A. No. In fact, I was sure that there would be
- 10 many investors who would support the take-private.
- 11 Q. I'm going to refer you to 1 -- page 135 of your
- 12 transcript.
- 13 A. Yeah.
- Q. And, particularly, you testified that PIF were
- 15 not under the assumption that the other investors would
- 16 participate. That's what you told the SEC there.
- 17 A. Yeah. The -- the -- the PIF fund was
- 18 supportive of a take-private however it needed to be
- 19 done. They were -- they were not attaching strings to
- 20 the take-private. They were unequivocally supportive of
- 21 a take-private however it -- however I would like it to
- 22 be done.
- 23 Q. But, as you said, no price was discussed,
- correct, for the potential go-private?
- 25 A. No price was discussed for the potential

- 1 take-private, just as -- just as no price was discussed
- when I said take a 5 percent stake in Tesla, and they
- 3 did it nonetheless. And there was no contract. There
- 4 was no written agreement. They did it nonetheless. And
- 5 they are well aware that taking a company private
- 6 implies a premium, and that premium would be on the
- 7 order of 20 percent, if not higher.
- 8 Q. What was -- how would they know that that
- 9 was -- that there was a premium for taking private?
- 10 A. Because they are experienced investors, and
- 11 every take-private has a premium.
- 12 Q. Had the Saudi PIF ever done a take-private
- 13 before?
- 14 A. I don't know if they've done a take-private or
- 15 not, but they are experienced investors, and they are
- 16 well aware that you cannot acquire a company or take a
- 17 company private without a premium.
- 18 Q. And that's something they said to you?
- 19 A. That is not something they said to me, but it
- 20 is something that every experienced investor is aware
- 21 of. And they are an experienced investor.
- 22 Q. And no total amount of funding was discussed at
- 23 this July 31st meeting; correct?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. So it could be anything from 60 to \$80 billion,

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Page 112
 1
                   Isn't that -- isn't that what you testified
 2.
     to?
 3
              There were -- there were -- the -- there were
          Α.
 4
     no strings attached to the take-private. Did I think
     that it would require anything on the order of
 5
     80 percent? Of course not. I make it very clear in the
 6
 7
     SEC testimony that I thought 20 or 25 percent would be
     sufficient.
 8
 9
          Q. But you didn't discuss 20 to 25 percent with
10
     them. You said you didn't discuss percentages with the
11
     PIF.
12
                              That's been asked and answered.
                   MR. NEAL:
13
                   MR. PORRITT: Yeah.
14
          Α.
             Yeah.
                     It was just clear that they were
15
     supportive unconditionally of -- of a take-private.
16
          0.
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Right. Up to any percentage.
17
                   You're conflating what -- what would be an
     aspirational ownership percentage of theirs -- or what I
18
19
     thought might be an aspirational ownership percentage
20
     versus what would be their actual ownership percentage.
     Aspirationally, I'm sure any one of our investors would
21
22
     like to own 100 percent of the company, if not
23
     80 percent, but it's not meaningful in -- in the context
     of this.
24
25
              What was the --
          Q.
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Page 125 1 And if they, for -- for -- for example, Α. Yes. had majority control of Tesla, they could simply mandate 3 it. And to be clear --4 0. 5 And to be clear, I am not -- I was not opposed to having a factory in Saudi Arabia, but it would have 6 to be when the timing was right, just not, you know, 7 before the timing was right. 8 9 Q. And to be clear, at the July 31, 2018, meeting, 10 internally, to yourself, you had no intention of letting Saudi Arabia obtain majority control of Tesla; correct? 11 Yeah, I did -- I did not think it would be good 12 Α. 13 to have Saudi Arabia have majority control of Tesla. Q. Okay. You -- I think, as we talked about 14 15 earlier, you mentally had a 20 percent sort of cap for 16 their involvement; correct? 17 No, not a 20 -- I said -- I think I said that probably what would be desirable would be around 20 to 18 30 percent, ideally, on the order -- ideally, 19 20 20 percent, since that would require the least amount of legal review. 21 22 Q. But, again, these percentages were not 23 communicated to PIF. These were you -- your internal 24 calculations. 25 A. Yes.

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Page 129
 1
          Q. My question is: Why didn't you do that on
 2.
     August 1?
 3
              Well, I was --
          Α.
 4
                   MR. NEAL: I think he just asked and
 5
     answered that, but go ahead.
              Yeah. No, I -- exactly. I did ask and answer
 6
          Α.
 7
     you -- I did answer that.
              (BY MR. PORRITT) So, in your view, you could
 8
          Ο.
 9
     have issued that tweet on August 1, and that would have
10
     been fine?
11
          Α.
              Yes.
12
          Q. Okay.
13
                   (Previously marked Exhibit 81 referred to.)
                   MR. PORRITT: Placing before the witness a
14
15
     document previously marked as Exhibit 81, an email from
     Mr. Musk to the Tesla board of directors dated
16
     August 2nd, 2018.
17
18
              (Witness reviews document.)
          Α.
19
                   Yes.
20
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Do you recognize this email?
          Q.
21
          Α.
              Yes.
22
              Did you draft this email?
          Q.
23
          A. Yes.
24
             Okay. Did anyone assist you in drafting this
          Q.
25
     email?
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Page 130
 1
          Α.
              No.
              You didn't consult with any legal advisor?
 2.
          0.
 3
          Α.
             I don't recall -- I'm not certain, but I don't
 4
    recall. I don't -- I don't think I ran this email by
 5
     anyone.
             Did you consult with any financial advisor?
 6
          Ο.
 7
              I don't -- I don't think so. I simply draft
     this email based on what I believed to be the case on
 8
 9
     August 2nd.
10
          Q. All right. Do you recall how long it took you
11
     to draft this email?
12
          Α.
              No.
13
          Q. Did you draft it, let it sit, review it, and
14
     then send it, or do you just draft it and send it
15
     straightaway, if you remember?
16
                              And what do you mean by that?
                   MR. NEAL:
     You mean did he reread it before he sent it?
17
18
                   MR. PORRITT: Yes, did he reread it.
          A. Yeah, I think I probably reread it after
19
20
     drafting it.
21
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Did you stop drafting it on
          Ο.
     August 2nd, 2018?
22
23
          A. I think so.
24
          Q. Do you know where you were when you sent this
25
     email?
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- 1 A. No.
- 2 It sounded like the Kennedy assassination.
- 3 Where were you when Kennedy was assassinated? I wasn't
- 4 alive.
- Q. Well, that's next. There is still the Hoffa
- 6 disappearance that needs to be explored, too.
- 7 A. Yeah, but I think that's uncertain as to when
- 8 he disappeared and where he is. Under -- somewhere
- 9 under the Giants Stadium or something, I think is the
- 10 speculation.
- 11 Q. I think that is widely -- I think it is widely
- 12 speculated but with a reasonable amount of -- a
- 13 reasonable amount of basis.
- Do you recall that on August 1 you had
- 15 the -- well, strike that.
- Do you know why you sent it to the board on
- 17 August 2nd, 2018, as opposed to August 1st, 2018, after
- 18 the meeting with PIF?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Do you recall that Tesla had a conference call,
- 21 earnings call on August 1st?
- 22 A. I guess so. I mean, it's obviously very
- 23 difficult to recall, you know, three -- what exactly
- 24 happened on which day and which hour in 2018.
- Q. And you said the 420 per share, I think you've

- indicated previously, was just a 20 percent premium on
- the then-market price; is that correct?
- A. Approximately, yes.
- 4 Q. And then round it up for 420?
- 5 A. For karma.
- 6 Q. Yes. Okay. Was that going to be your final
- 7 price?
- 8 A. Karma is real.
- 9 Q. Was that going to be -- was that your final
- 10 price for going private?
- 11 A. No. That's why I said "considering."
- 12 Q. All right. Were you prepared to go higher than
- 13 420 per share going private?
- 14 A. Probably.
- 15 Q. Okay. Had you even thought about that at the
- 16 time when you sent this email?
- 17 A. There was a limit to, you know, how high one
- 18 could go, so that's why I said "considering at 420."
- 19 Q. Why was there -- why would there be a limit as
- 20 to how far you could go?
- 21 A. Well, there would conceivably be some very high
- 22 number where it would be difficult to take the company
- 23 private.
- 24 Q. But you previously testified that the PIF had
- 25 committed to funding going private without condition,

Page 133 including price. 1 2 So how does that work if -- therefore, 3 there couldn't be a limit, could there? A. Well, the funding would be secured provided 4 there was a reasonable premium to the take-private, but 5 not if the stock went to some exorbitant number. The 6 reason I included the number of 420 -- \$420 per share 7 was to make it clear that the funding was secured at 8 9 that level, but not at some much higher level. 10 That is why I specifically mentioned a 20 percent premium over the stock price. Funding was 11 secured at that level, a reasonable premium, to the 12 take-private, but not at some much higher premium. 13 14 And, if I wanted to really burn the shorts, 15 if that -- if that was my goal, I would not have put a 16 price number in there. I would have left the price open-ended. That would have been the way to actually 17 burn the shorts. That would have been the way to cause 18 them the most amount of harm would be to leave that 19 20 number open-ended. By putting a number in there that was a 20 percent premium over the short -- over the --21 22 the stock price actually reduced the harm to the shorts. 23 And it also had the effect of potentially 24 reducing what you might pay for a going-private 25 transaction; correct?

- 1 round number and roughly a 20 percent premium to the
- 2 stock price.
- Q. And this calculation you did on August 2nd?
- 4 A. I don't know exactly when that -- it could have
- 5 been around that time.
- Q. Well, did you do that before the earnings call
- 7 on August 1st or not?
- 8 A. I don't recall exactly when it was.
- 9 Q. I'll represent to you that the stock price
- 10 increased significantly after the August 1st earnings
- 11 call, and that this 20 -- 20 percent premium is
- 12 calculated on the post-increase.
- Does that refresh your recollection as to
- 14 when you -- how you calculated the 420?
- 15 A. That -- that could be correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. And I'm correct -- I apologize if I'm
- 17 repeating myself -- that the 420 price was never
- 18 mentioned to the PIF on July 31st; correct?
- 19 A. Just as no price was discussed when they agreed
- 20 to do -- to take a 5 percent stake in Tesla, no price
- 21 was discussed at the take-private, nor did they indicate
- 22 that they had a price limit in any way. They were just
- 23 unequivocally supportive of a take-private.
- Q. But I think that was a long way of saying, yes,
- 25 you did not discuss 420 with the PIF on July 31st, 2018.

- 1 A. No, but the PIF was well aware that any
- 2 take-private would involve a reasonable premium. A
- 3 reasonable premium, in my view, was 20 percent. And
- 4 they would be well aware that you don't take a company
- 5 private simply at the price that it is currently
- 6 trading. There would have to be some premium. They, as
- 7 experienced investors, were well aware of this.
- 8 Q. What did you expect to happen after you gave
- 9 this email -- sent this email to the board on
- 10 August 2nd, 2018?
- 11 A. I -- I felt it was important to convey the
- 12 reasons for taking Tesla private.
- 13 Q. Convey it to whom?
- 14 A. To the board.
- 15 Q. Okay. My question was: What did you expect to
- 16 happen following the transmission of this email to the
- 17 board?
- 18 A. I expected the board to consider the
- 19 take-private offer.
- 20 O. And what would that involve?
- 21 A. That would involve creating a special committee
- 22 to consider the take-private.
- Q. Okay. And what is the purpose of the special
- 24 committee in this scenario?
- 25 A. To decide whether or not to put the matter to a

- 1 A. What's that conclusion?
- 2 Q. That a detailed proposal had not yet been made
- 3 and would need -- be needed in order for the board to
- 4 properly analyze and evaluate it.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. So you -- you agreed to this -- the
- 7 email you had sent, Exhibit 81, was not a detailed
- 8 proposal that the board could properly analyze and
- 9 evaluate.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- MR. NEAL: I think we've been going about
- 13 an hour and a half.
- 14 MR. PORRITT: Yeah. I was just going to
- 15 finish up these minutes and then take a break, if that's
- 16 okay.
- 17 MR. NEAL: Okay. Yeah.
- 18 MR. PORRITT: As you can see, I'm on the
- 19 last page. So...
- 20 Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) The minutes then continue
- 21 (as read) As an initial step, the board authorized
- 22 Mr. Musk to have initial, conceptual conversations with
- a few of the company's top shareholders to explore their
- 24 interest and gauge their reaction to a private corporate
- 25 structure.

Page 160 1 Do you see that? Α. Yes. Okay. At this board meeting on August 3rd, did 3 0. you discuss your intent to make a public disclosure of 4 your consideration of a going-private transaction? 5 you discuss that with the board? 6 7 Sorry. What was the question? Α. Did you discuss your intent to make a public 8 0. 9 disclosure of your consideration of a going-private 10 transaction at 420 per share with the board? No, I don't think so. 11 Α. 12 O. Okay. Why not? 13 Α. I don't recall. 14 Did you think you would need board approval to Q. 15 make a public disclosure of your consideration of a going-private transaction for Tesla at 420 per share? 16 17 No, because it -- doing so would be in my capacity as an individual, not -- this would not -- the 18 19 board would be a counterparty in this situation. 20 would need to act in my capacity as an individual in proposing the take-private. 21 22 But you --Q. 23 It's not up to the board as to whether I Α. 24 propose to take the company private; it's up to me. 25 But you understood that that proposal may have Q.

- 1 is described is -- is actually not -- it's slightly
- 2 inaccurate in that the board really does not have the
- 3 authority, nor should they have the authority, to
- 4 constrain the actions of me as an individual proposing
- 5 to take the company private, because I'm a counterparty.
- 6 They are not there to authorize or not authorize me.
- 7 So I think, in this case, the word
- 8 "authorize" is -- is the wrong word. They -- it's
- 9 really not up to the board. The -- the important thing
- 10 here, I think, is that "do not selectively disclose
- 11 things." And I came to the conclusion that it was
- 12 really impossible to have conversations with some
- 13 investors but not others without creating a selective
- 14 disclosure problem.
- 15 Q. Did you try to have a conversation with an
- 16 investor between August 3rd and August 7th?
- 17 A. I don't recall.
- Q. All right. Well, yeah, that was -- why don't
- 19 we take a break and then come back.
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 3:27. We
- 21 are off the record.
- 22 (A recess was taken from 3:27 p.m.
- 23 to 4:08 p.m.)
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 4:08. We
- 25 are on the record.

Page 167 1 Okay. I'm going to represent to you that Ο. 2. August 3rd was a Friday. 3 So, over the weekend, do you recall 4 discussing the potential going-private transaction with 5 This will be August 4th, August 5th, 2018. I don't recall. 6 Α. 7 Okay. At some point over the weekend, did you have a telephone conversation with Michael Dell? 8 9 I may have had -- yes, actually, I -- I think I Α. 10 did. 11 Q. Okay. And I think that was on the weekend. 12 Do you recall anything about that conversation? 13 A. Yes. I -- I asked him, did -- was he glad to 14 15 have done the -- to have taken Dell Computer private, 16 did he -- did he think that that was a good idea, and had that allowed him to operate the company more 17 effectively. And he said he -- he did. He said it was 18 a very difficult process, but it was one that he did not 19 20 regret doing. 21 Q. When he said it was a very difficult process, 22 did he give any further detail as to what the process entailed for him in taking Dell private? 23 24 Just that there were -- there were significant 25 legal challenges that he had to face from lawyers like

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Page 168
 1
    yourself, and that I think he had to spend a fair bit of
     time in Delaware. So -- and I think -- I think, in that
 2.
 3
    case, the -- the judge -- the initial judgment actually
 4
    was against him in the take-private transaction but was
 5
     subsequently overturned on appeal.
             Did he give an indication of the amount of time
6
 7
     the transaction took?
              I think he said maybe a year or something. I'm
 8
          Α.
9
    not sure of the exact -- it's also -- it's like --
10
     I'm -- I don't -- I don't -- I don't recall there being
    a specific time frame, but I think -- yeah. So I -- you
11
    know, when I say, like, do I actually remember it or do
12
13
    I think I remember it, I think I remember him saying
14
     something like a year, but I'm not sure.
15
             Okay. Did you talk -- did he talk to you about
          0.
     the disclosure of -- when you disclose the potential
16
    going-private transaction?
17
             No. I just want -- I just wanted to see if
18
19
    he -- if he thought it was a good idea to take his
20
     company private. And he -- he thought -- despite the
    difficulty, he thought that it was -- nonetheless had
21
22
    been worth doing.
23
          Q. And Dell was a conventional
24
    going-private; correct? Michael Dell took majority
25
     control of the company?
```

Page 169 1 In that case, it was Michael Dell taking Α. 2. majority control of the company, not exclusive control, 3 but majority control. But he received financial 4 support, I believe, from Silver Lake and some others. And so he may be beholden to them in some way. I don't 5 know. 6 7 O. Did Michael Dell discuss with you the importance of the timing of when you disclose the price 8 9 of which you propose to take a company private? 10 Α. No. Did you also talk to -- and before your 11 counsel leaps all over me, I'm just -- at this point, 12 13 I'm just talking about whether a conversation took place 14 and the topic. Did you also talk to a lawyer from Wachtell 15 over the course of the weekend? 16 17 MR. NEAL: Just yes or no on that, if you remember. 18 It's difficult to remember the exact timing of 19 conversations three years ago and, you know, exactly 20 what day they occurred and when they occurred. I think 21 I talked to a lawyer from Wachtell. Yeah, I'm not 22 23 certain. 24 Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Okay. Fair enough. 25 And then, on the Monday, you had a

- 1 provision at this point, but yeah.
- 2 A. I think he's probably aware of it.
- Q. After you sent this tweet -- well, no. Let's
- 4 just finish off. Sorry.
- 5 The reference here to "funding secured,"
- 6 that refers to the Saudi Arabia PIF; is that correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. Okay. And I don't want to rehash our
- 9 discussion at length.
- And that was based on your discussion you'd
- 11 had with the PIF on your July 31st, 2018,
- 12 meeting; correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. You had not had any subsequent communications
- 15 with the PIF?
- 16 A. I don't think so.
- 17 Q. Okay. After you sent this tweet, do you know
- 18 what happened next? Can you -- do you remember what
- 19 happened next?
- MR. NEAL: Well, in -- in what respect?
- Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Well, immediately thereafter,
- 22 you know, between -- there is a --
- MR. NEAL: Like he said, he got on the
- 24 airplane and flew it.
- Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Did anyone call you? I quess

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Page 196
              Okay. Although, just to go back to Exhibit 8,
 1
          0.
     it doesn't say "funding secured at 420"; right?
 2.
                   MR. NEAL: It speaks for itself. You don't
 3
 4
     need -- he's arguing with you now. You don't need to
     arque with him.
 5
 6
          Α.
              Yeah.
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Well, was funding secured if
 7
     the price was 421?
 8
 9
          Α.
              Probably.
10
              Okay. What about 425?
          Ο.
              I mean, some number that would -- that would
11
     not be some much larger premium of the stock price, but
12
13
     I want it -- you know, I want it to be clear that it was
14
     not -- I would not consider taking Tesla private at any
15
    price, but I'm considering taking Tesla private at $420.
16
          Q. And did, in fact, Sarah O'Brien, Todd Maron,
     and you -- and Mr. Ahuja, rather, draft a blog post or
17
     email for you?
18
19
              Yeah, we worked on a blog post.
          Q. Okay. And how did you -- how was that work
20
21
    undertaken?
22
              We aerated on -- on a blog post and -- and
    posted one.
23
          Q. Okay. So -- but how -- how was the work --
24
25
     who -- who -- who drafted the preliminary draft?
```

```
Page 197
 1
              I don't recall.
          Α.
          0.
              Was it you?
 3
              No. I think they sent me a draft.
          Α.
              Okay. Do you remember if you made any comments
 4
 5
     to it?
              I don't recall.
 6
          Α.
 7
              Okay. Do you recall how it was sent to you?
          Ο.
              Probably by email.
 8
          Α.
 9
              Okay. Were Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Maron, and
          Q.
10
     Mr. Ahuja also at Fremont on this day, on this morning?
              I think so, but I'm not certain.
11
          Q. All right.
12
13
                   MR. PORRITT: Why don't we get the -- so
     let's mark this as the next -- what are we up to?
14
15
     Sorry.
                   THE REPORTER: 331.
16
17
                   MR. PORRITT: 331.
18
                   (Exhibit 331 marked.)
19
                   MR. PORRITT: So I'm placing before the
20
     witness a document marked as Exhibit 331, a document
     Bates-stamped TESLA_LITTLETON_00020197. I think it was
21
22
     a native file, so I think it just has one -- oh, sorry.
23
     Okay.
24
              (Witness reviews document.)
          Α.
25
              (BY MR. PORRITT) I'll represent to you these
          Q.
```

Page 208 1 this -- this email? What I'm describing as an email was

- 2 titled "The following email was sent to Tesla employees
- 3 today."
- 4 A. Yes.
- Okay. This was an email you sent on
- 6 August 7th, 2018?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Again, reading this, does it refresh
- 9 your recollection about any particular part of this that
- 10 you drafted or wrote?
- 11 A. This actually does look like the sort of -- the
- 12 way that I would write things.
- Q. Okay. But you don't have any recollection of
- 14 writing any of it?
- 15 A. I mean, I don't have any specific recollection
- 16 except that this certainly reads like an email that is
- 17 in my voice.
- Q. Okay. First of all, this email doesn't mention
- 19 funding; correct?
- 20 A. It does not seem to mention funding.
- 21 Q. Okay. Do you know -- do you know why funding
- 22 wasn't included in this email?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. Do you recall asking or suggesting that funding
- 25 be discussed in this email?

```
Page 210
 1
                                      The time is 5:33.
                   THE VIDEOGRAPHER:
                                                          We
     are on the record.
          O. (BY MR. PORRITT) So before the break,
 3
     Mr. Musk, I just -- we were looking at Exhibit 12, the
 4
     email dated August 7th, 2018. I just have a couple of
 5
     follow-up questions.
 6
 7
                   So, in this -- in this email, you refer to
     shareholders, and you also refer to investors.
 8
 9
                   Is there any difference between the two in
10
     this email?
          A. Well, shareholders would be those that are
11
     currently shareholders. Investors could be either
12
13
     current, prospective -- current shareholders,
     prospective shareholders, or both.
14
15
          Q. Okay. And when you're using it -- so, for
     instance, I see it in the second-to-last paragraph here.
16
     Where -- you write, in Exhibit 12, (as read) ...where
17
     there is as little change to all of our investors,
18
     including all of our employees, as possible.
19
20
                   Do you see that?
21
          Α.
            Yeah.
22
          Q. All right. Who -- what -- in what use are you
     using it there?
23
              Investors would be shareholders, yeah, current
24
25
     shareholders.
```

- 1 transaction by August 7th, 2018?
- 2 A. I don't recall.
- 3 Q. The second sentence is -- well, the second
- 4 sentence says "Only reason why this is not certain is
- 5 that it's contingent on a shareholder vote."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, we'd already seen in the August 3rd
- 9 board meeting that there currently was not a proposal, a
- formal proposal for the board to evaluate and analyze.
- Do you recall that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And you had testified that there would need to
- 14 be a special committee appointed who would negotiate the
- 15 terms of the final transaction; correct?
- 16 A. They would -- they would negotiate what would
- 17 be proposed to shareholders.
- 18 Q. Okay. And that hadn't been -- that process
- 19 hadn't been even started by this point; correct?
- 20 A. I'm not certain.
- Q. Okay. Was there a special committee appointed
- 22 by August 7th, 2018?
- 23 A. I'm not sure.
- Q. So what was -- there was nothing in existence
- on August 7th, 2018, for the shareholders to vote

- 1 if the Saudi Public Investment Fund did not give you the
- 2 funding to purchase over 51 percent?
- 3 A. Well, the -- in talking with Silver Lake,
- 4 Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley, they were confident
- 5 that the funding could be raised whether or not the
- 6 Saudi investment fund wanted to proceed.
- 7 Q. If it had -- well, two things: What would
- 8 happen with the -- what would happen with the funding
- 9 from the Saudi pension investment -- Public Investment
- 10 Fund?
- 11 MR. NEAL: Can I hear that question again.
- 12 (Record read.)
- MR. NEAL: Object to the form. I don't
- 14 understand that question.
- 15 Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) If the Saudi Public
- 16 Investment Fund refused to provide the funding that you
- 17 discussed on July 31st, 2018, what would -- what would
- 18 you have -- what recourse could you take?
- 19 A. Well, I think I would work with Silver Lake,
- 20 Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley, all of whom agreed to
- 21 support the take-private and raise money from other
- 22 investors.
- 23 Q. Had they -- had you spoken to them by
- 24 August 7th, 2018?
- 25 A. I'm not sure exactly -- no, no. In this -- in

- this case, the August 7th one, I'm referring to the
- 2 Saudis.
- 3 Q. Okay. But --
- 4 A. And the August 24th one, I specifically mention
- 5 Silver Lake, Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley
- 6 explicitly.
- 7 O. So -- but the August 7th --
- 8 A. But you're conflating the two, but there is a
- 9 big difference in time here.
- 10 O. Understood.
- 11 So we can put -- in the August 7th, you
- 12 write "Investor support is confirmed," referring to the
- 13 Saudi Public Investment Fund; correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. My question is: If the Saudi Public
- 16 Investment Fund did not provide you with the funding,
- 17 what was your recourse going to be?
- MR. NEAL: What do you mean? Recourse
- 19 against PIF? He just answered that question.
- Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Yes. What would your
- 21 recourse be against PIF?
- MR. NEAL: If any.
- Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Well, that's the question.
- A. Well, on August 7th, I believe that the -- we
- 25 had their full support. Subsequent to that, whether or

- 1 not they -- there was support -- whether or not they
- 2 wanted to increase their investment beyond 5 percent was
- 3 not necessary to take the company private. I --
- 4 Silver Lake, Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley were
- 5 highly confident that we could raise the money to take
- 6 Tesla private whether or not the Saudis participated.
- 7 Q. But you -- once again, you're not answering my
- 8 question, which is that: Did you have any legal
- 9 recourse against the PIF if they refused to provide you
- funding for a going-private transaction?
- 11 A. No, I don't think so.
- 12 Q. Okay. Did you have any -- did you ever obtain
- 13 a contractual commitment letter for any funding for the
- 14 going-private transaction at any time?
- MR. NEAL: A letter?
- 16 MR. PORRITT: Just a contractual
- 17 commitment.
- MR. NEAL: Well, I object to the form of
- 19 that question. What do you mean by "contractual"
- 20 commitment"?
- 21 MR. PORRITT: Okay. An enforceable
- 22 commitment.
- 23 MR. NEAL: It call -- that calls for a
- 24 legal speculation on his part.
- MR. PORRITT: Well, as he understands it.

```
Page 225
 1
    view?
              I -- I think, yes, in this -- in this context,
 3
     it is a synonym for -- yeah.
          O. Okay. You think there is a thesaurus in the
 4
 5
     world that lists secured as a -- as a synonym for
     confident?
 6
 7
                   MR. NEAL: This is getting silly.
              I suspect there probably is.
 8
          Α.
 9
             (BY MR. PORRITT) Okay. Well...
          Q.
10
              I'm confident there is.
          Α.
          Q. Why don't we go to -- back to Exhibit 121, your
11
     text messages. And if I can refer you to --
12
13
                   MR. NEAL: That thick --
14
          Α.
            Oh.
15
          Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Yeah, it's just -- there you
16
     are. I think that's it. And then if you can go forward
17
     to -- let's see. It's the one, two, three, four, five,
     six, seven -- eighth page of Exhibit 121 on
18
    August 10th, 2018. The time stamp on here is 22:45.
19
20
     Actually, if you just go up to --
21
          Α.
              Sorry. Where?
22
              Yeah. It's 8/10/2018, 19:56. Sorry.
          Ο.
23
          A. Yes.
24
              Okay. Do you see a text there from you to
25
     Yasir?
```

```
Page 226
 1
          Α.
              Yes.
              All right. Saying "This is a major problem.
          0.
 3
     It's extremely important that you confirm that you are
     in discussions with me regarding the take-private
 4
 5
     transaction."
 6
          Α.
              Yes.
 7
              "Nothing more needs to be said."
          0.
 8
                   Do you see that?
 9
          Α.
              Yes.
10
              Okay. Do you recall sending that text to
11
     Yasir?
12
          Α.
              Yes.
              Okay. What prompted you to send that text?
13
              I think there was some press or statement
14
15
     about -- from the -- the Saudi PIF that they were less
16
     committed to the -- to supporting a take-private then,
17
     was my understanding.
18
              In your text, you don't ask Yasir to confirm
     that they have committed to funding or that they've --
19
20
     you have secured funding.
21
              Well, I'm certainly asking that they confirm
     discussions. That's -- they don't need to say more than
22
23
     that, even though I felt that they had committed to more
24
     than that.
25
              Well, why didn't you ask them to say more than
```

```
Page 227
 1
   that?
              I was trying to make the least difficult ask of
          Α.
 3
     them.
 4
              Okay. Was it because you knew that they
     wouldn't confirm that they had committed funding?
 5
 6
         Α.
              No.
 7
              Later down on that page, there is a lengthy
     text from Yasir. If you could just read that.
 8
 9
              "Elon, as you know, PIF purchased a passive
          Α.
10
     stake" --
              You can read it to yourself. I don't --
11
12
              Okay. Great.
          Α.
13
              Don't read it out loud. Sorry.
14
          Α.
              Okay.
15
          Q. If you could just read it to yourself. I'm
     sorry. I didn't want to read it out -- I was going to
16
17
     read it out loud and thought that's a bit of a long
     read. So I'll let you read it to yourself.
18
19
              (Witness reads document.)
          Α.
20
                   Yes.
21
              Okay. Yasir describes his understanding as
          0.
     "PIF remains interested" as -- well, sorry. First of
22
     all, he describes his -- his -- his status as owning a
23
24
     passive stake in Tesla.
25
          A. Yes.
```

```
Page 228
 1
          Q. Do you see that?
                   And then it "remains interested in
 2
 3
     potential investment opportunities."
 4
                   Do you see that?
 5
          Α.
              Yes.
              And that they would explore investing in Tesla.
 6
 7
     Correct?
 8
          Α.
              Yes.
              Okay. There is no reference in there to a
 9
          Q.
10
     commitment to funding; correct?
              I mean, they -- they -- they say very clearly
11
12
     that they're interested in investment opportunities.
13
          0.
              It says --
14
              I mean, they're -- they're explicit about --
15
     they're very clear that they are interested in
16
     investment opportunities with Tesla.
17
              Right. Contingent upon Tesla creating a
18
     production hub in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; correct?
19
          Α.
              Yes, that's what the text says.
20
          Q.
              Okay.
21
              Which I was not opposed to. It's just a
     question of the timing.
22
23
              Okay. But does this -- this suggests that any
24
     significant investment by Public Investment Fund was
25
     contingent upon Tesla opening a production facility in
```

Page 229 the -- in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia? 1 At some point in the future, which I was not 3 opposed to. I thought that would be quite reasonable. In fact, I thought it could be helpful to Saudi Arabia 4 to have a -- something that employed people that was 5 with -- that -- for sustainable energy. I was 6 7 sympathetic to their need to transition away from a dependency on oil. 8 Do you know -- is opening a production facility 9 10 in Saudi Arabia something you would need board approval 11 before you could do? 12 Not -- I don't think so. Α. 13 Okay. So you can open up a production facility 14 anywhere in the world without board approval? 15 Α. Yeah. Perhaps if it was beyond a certain 16 scale, there might need to be board approval. But 17 generally, the board is -- does not operate the company; 18 I operate the company. 19 Yasir's text then says, "We would like our 20 teams to start working together in a confidential manner 21 to explore a potential transaction." 22 Do you see that? 23 Α. Yes. Okay. Is that consistent with committing 24 25 financing for a going-private transaction?

Page 230 A. I mean, he's clearly saying that he wants to 1 pursue investment opportunities. 3 O. Okay. So that's -- that's consistent with investment 4 5 support. Okay. Is it consistent with -- starting to 6 0. 7 work together, is that consistent with securing funding? I mean, they're very clear about being 8 interested in investment opportunities. They state that 9 10 explicitly. 11 Okay. But --0. 12 They wouldn't have said that if they weren't Α. 13 interested in investment opportunities. 14 0. Right. 15 So they're interested in investment 16 opportunities. 17 Okay. 0. 18 They wanted to invest. Α. 19 Okay. Is that the same as committing to Ο. invest? 20 21 I mean, they're -- they're very clear about Α. wanting to invest. Why would we not take them at their 22 23 word? 24 Did you have a conversation with Yasir on 25 August 10th, 2018? That's a Friday, point of reference.

Page 244 1 So if you can just turn down after the -immediately after the "It's over" text. 3 another lengthy text from Yasir. He says (as read) 4 Let's see the numbers and get our people to meet and We cannot approve something when we don't --5 that we don't have sufficient information on. 6 7 agreed that you will send the financial information and the way going forward within a week and nothing happened 8 The last thing I want to do is "through you 9 since. 10 under the bus." So please don't treat me like an enemy. 11 You forgot there was a change of position 12 from July 31st, 2018? 13 My concern was with what they were saying publicly or what was getting leaked publicly. It 14 15 certainly would be fine to provide them with additional 16 information, but I felt it was important that they 17 correct any public misperception that they were not interested in investing when, in fact, they were 18 interested in investing. 19 20 They needed to correct in the public 21 perception, because they were interested in investing, and they would not -- Yasir would not be wanting to meet 22 23 with me and talk with me and be pushing me for 24 information if he wasn't interested in investing. 25 obviously, he is privately interested in investing.

Page 245 simply needs to confirm that publicly. 1 Well, wasn't it also true that following 3 July 31st, 2018, they needed to get additional 4 information before they could approve any funding for 5 Tesla? 6 MR. NEAL: Is it true, or is that what that 7 That's what the tweet says. tweet says? Q. (BY MR. PORRITT) Well, I'm asking: Isn't it 8 9 true? 10 I mean, he's saying that he wants additional 11 information, which is completely fine. It is normal to 12 get additional information, just like when you make an 13 offer on a house and you want to buy a house, you 14 look -- you want additional information. 15 Your intent, however, is to follow through 16 with the investment. That, I don't have a problem with. 17 I do have a problem with not being clear publicly that the PIF was interested in increasing their investment, 18 19 which they were. 20 Q. So --21 They would not be pushing me for conversations and meetings and documents if they were not interested 22 in investing, if they did not want to invest. They're 23 very clear about wanting to invest privately. I just 24 25 wanted them to make that consistent publicly.

```
Page 246
          Q. The statement here, "We cannot approve
 1
     something that we don't have sufficient information on,"
 3
     that was the understanding, comment of July 31st, 2018?
 4
              No, that was not the understanding of
     July 31st.
 5
              Is this statement consistent with secured
 6
 7
     funding from PIF?
              The -- the very clear understanding that I had
 8
 9
     on July 31st was that they would support a take-private.
              Is the statement "PIF cannot approve something
10
11
     that we don't have sufficient information on consistent
12
     with securing funding from them?
              I think the -- the July 31st -- the tweet is
13
     based off of what I said on July 31st. On July 31st --
14
15
     or the tweet -- the tweet is based on the meeting that
     we had on July 31st. In that meeting, they were -- they
16
17
     were unequivocal in their support for taking Tesla
18
     private. Yeah.
19
              That didn't really answer my question.
20
                   Is someone not approving something when
21
     they don't have sufficient information on consistent
     with securing funding for that person?
22
23
                   MR. NEAL: Object to the form of the
24
     question.
                It's argumentative, unclear.
              The tweet is based on the conversation we had
25
```

Page 247 1 on July 31st. In that conversation, they -- they -they were unequivocally supportive of Tesla -- of taking 3 Tesla private. That's what that tweet was based on. 4 And, on that basis, I felt funding was secured. (BY MR. PORRITT) So looking down here, just 5 6 two more -- two or three texts down, you have more from 7 Yasir, saying (as read) Details on how we can take the company private. That's what we agreed on. What is the 8 required percentage and so on? What are required 9 10 regulatory thresholds for taking it private? 11 Do you see that? 12 Yes, that's -- those are entirely reasonable Α. 13 questions. 14 Okay. That -- you agreed to provide that 15 information to Yasir at the July 31st, 2018, meeting? 16 I mean, it's reasonable, in -- in taking a 17 company private, to say, okay, what percentage of the -the company does Saudi PIF have to provide? That is a 18 19 reasonable question. It could be 15 percent, 20 20 percent, 25 percent. But there was no equivocation 21 in the July 31st meeting regarding their support for 22 taking Tesla private, none. 23 But they would need to have that additional 24 information before they could commit funding? 25 I think you're just trying to be tricky here.

```
Page 248
 1
          Q. I'm just asking a question.
 2.
                   MR. NEAL:
                              What's the question?
 3
                   MR. PORRITT: Could you read the question
 4
     back, please.
 5
                   (The record was read as
                    follows:
 6
 7
                        But they would need to
                    have that additional
 8
                    information before they could
 9
10
                    commit funding?")
11
              Yes, but that is not saying that they are not
          Α.
12
     willing to commit funding. They're simply -- it's,
13
     like, quite reasonable for them to ask, okay, so do you
     want us to invest 20 percent? 25 percent? That's in no
14
15
     way undermining their desire to invest.
16
          Ο.
              (BY MR. PORRITT)
                               Okay.
              It's typically like saying, well, how big --
17
     you know, should we write a check for 20 percent or
18
     25 percent or what? It's not saying they won't write
19
20
     the check.
          Q. If you could -- let's go on to the next page.
21
22
     And please read the texts in between -- yes, the texts
     in between for additional context. But I want to focus,
23
24
     again, on --
25
                   MR. NEAL: What exhibit are you working off
```

```
Page 249
 1
    of?
                   MR. PORRITT: 121.
 3
                   MR. NEAL: Okay. Yep.
 4
                                 Still 121.
                   MR. PORRITT:
 5
                   MR. NEAL: Yeah. You got the right page?
 6
                   MR. PORRITT: Has the witness got the right
 7
    page? I don't want to point him to another.
                   MR. NEAL: Yeah, this is
 8
 9
     Exhibit 121; right?
10
                   MR. PORRITT:
                                 Okay.
11
                   MR. NEAL: Yeah.
              (BY MR. PORRITT) This is now a text dated
12
          Ο.
13
     August 12th, 2018, time stamped 18:57. Yasir writes
14
     (as read) We haven't taken any company private yet in
15
     the US or anywhere else, and the agreement, as was
     minuted by my people, is to wait for the information to
16
17
     be sent by you within a week on how we will move forward
18
     together.
19
                   Do you see that?
20
          Α.
              No, I'm sorry. I must be on the wrong page.
21
              Oh, I apologize. It's August 12th, 18 -- that
          Q.
22
     was at 18:57. And, as your counsel pointed out, read
     any intervening texts that you want to obtain whatever
23
24
     context you want.
25
          A. Yes, I don't think this -- this is
```

Page 250 consistent with them saying that -- I mean, he's saying

- 2 he wants to move forward together.
- 3 Q. Okay.

1

- 4 A. That's -- like, clearly, he's saying he wants
- 5 to move forward together.
- 6 Q. Okay. After obtaining additional information.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. He wants to move forward together. That's
- 10 obviously expressing strong interest in literally moving
- 11 forward together.
- 12 Q. Okay. So this is -- this statement here in
- 13 this text we're just looking at is consistent with
- 14 saying funding is secured from PIF?
- 15 A. This is not the same as the conversation that
- 16 we had on July 31st. July 31st, it was "we will support
- 17 you in going private." That was it. And, on that
- 18 basis, I felt funding was secured. You -- you can't,
- 19 like, look at something on -- that's, like, 12 days
- later, 13 days later, and say that somehow I would have
- 21 had foreknowledge of something 12 days later.
- 22 Q. This is referring to the minutes made of -- by
- 23 PIF at the meeting on July 31st; correct?
- A. I mean, he's saying that there were minutes,
- 25 but I don't recall any minutes being made of that

Page 257 1 Okay. Do you recall at one point in time 0. executing a nondisclosure agreement with the PIF? 3 Α. I don't recall. 4 If the tweets that we looked at on August 7th had disclosed the pertinent information about 5 going private, why would you need to sign a 6 7 nondisclosure agreement with the PIF? I don't know. Α. 8 9 If we can go back to Exhibit 121, your text 10 messages, onto the subsequent page, where we were 11 before. So this is now stamped August 13th, 2018, 12 Do you see there is a text from 13 Yasir to -- Yasir to you? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Okay. Yasir writes (as read) Elon, I'm 0. 16 personally surprised. You've signed an NDA, and while 17 we are waiting for you and your team to provide us with information to move forward, you post an ill-advised 18 blog with loose information. Anyway, we hope that you 19 20 and your team work on gathering the information as soon 21 as possible and send that to us to move forward, Yasir. 22 Do you see that? 23 I mean, he's saying, once again, that he Α. Yes. 24 wants to move forward with the transaction. 25 this is good.

```
Page 258
              Do you agree that the blog --
 1
          0.
 2.
              He's reaffirming his interest in investing.
          Α.
 3
              Do you agree with Yasir, that the blog was
          0.
     ill-advised with loose information?
 4
 5
          Α.
              No.
              Do you know what Yasir's referring to there?
 6
 7
          Α.
              No.
              You respond "You shouldn't be. I'm still
 8
          0.
 9
     upset."
10
                   Do you see that?
11
          Α.
              Yes.
12
              Okay. What were you upset about with Yasir?
          0.
13
              I was upset that the -- the -- what the press
14
     was reporting was not consistent with our private
15
     discussions. In the private -- he, once again,
16
     reaffirms via text that he's interested in moving
17
     forward as soon as possible. He says that in the text.
     I simply want that to be reflected in the media. I
18
19
     simply want that to be the same. That is entirely
20
     reasonable.
21
          Q. We leapt ahead a little bit, but going back
22
     following your August 7th tweets that we were looking
     at, Exhibits 8 through 13, I believe they are.
23
24
                   Do you recall what the market reaction was
25
     to your tweets?
```

Page 292 1 Α. Okay. I apologize. That was a little trick. Ο. 3 Last page just has a signature on it. Α. 4 Ο. Okay. First page. 5 (Witness reviews document.) Α. So it's really the section titled "1, 6 0. 7 Discussion of a Potential Going-Private Transaction." Yeah, okay. I'll read that. 8 Α. 9 Thank you. Q. 10 (Witness reads document.) Α. 11 Yes, I've read it. 12 Okay. So if I can direct you back to the first O. page of Exhibit 101. 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 The -- the last paragraph, the carry-over Q. paragraph, starting on page 1 of Exhibit 101, where you 16 say -- or the minutes say (as read) Mr. Musk next 17 discussed with the board information that he had learned 18 19 in recent weeks following his announcement, including, 20 but not limited to, the negative views of many of the 21 company's current stockholders regarding the prospect of 22 the company going private, the difficulties the company's current stockholders would have in continuing 23 24 to own Tesla's stock if the company went private, as 25 well as the procedural difficulties of any going-private

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 1
     transaction, including the extended length of time such
     a transaction would require, and how it may distract and
 3
     negatively impact the company's focus on its core
 4
     business.
 5
                   Do you see that?
 6
          Α.
              Yes.
 7
              Does that accurately summarize your discussion
     with the board on August 23rd, 2018?
 8
 9
              I think it does, yeah.
          Α.
10
              If I -- on to the next page of Exhibit 101,
     just after the --
11
12
                   MR. NEAL: And when you say "the next
13
     page, " you mean page 2 or --
14
                   MR. PORRITT: Page 2. Sorry.
15
                   MR. NEAL:
                              Page 2.
16
                   MR. PORRITT: Page 2. Sorry.
              (BY MR. PORRITT) Midway through, or about a
17
     quarter of the way through that paragraph, after the
18
19
     redactions, the minutes say (as read) As part of this
20
     discussion -- or no. Sorry. Well, yeah. (As read) As
     part of this discussion, Mr. Musk reminded the board
21
22
     that one of his preferences when considering a
     going-private transaction was to allow Tesla's long-term
23
24
     investors to continue to keep their equity positions in
     Tesla, but he had recently heard from numerous investors
25
```

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- 1 off responding to these inquiries?
- 2 A. Well, I thought it would be best to schedule
- 3 calls with investors and talk to them about the
- 4 take-private. Yeah.
- Q. And did you -- did you actually schedule those
- 6 calls?
- 7 A. Yeah, we sched- -- I sched- -- we scheduled
- 8 calls with a number of the major investors. I think
- 9 most of the major investors I talked to at some point in
- 10 the following weeks. And that's where, you know, I
- 11 asked them what their interest would be in remaining as
- 12 an investor in Tesla as a private company, whether they
- 13 thought this was a good idea, whether they'd be
- 14 supportive of that.
- 15 And, yeah, I -- on balance, about, you
- 16 know, roughly half of the investors were
- 17 supportive of -- or they -- they would continue to
- 18 remain investors as Tesla -- with Tesla as a private
- 19 company, but most preferred that we would remain public.
- 20 But that did not -- so they -- they would be willing to
- 21 be a private investor -- they were willing to -- would
- 22 be willing to be part of Tesla as a private company, but
- 23 they would prefer that we remain public.
- Q. Okay. I think, with that, I don't have any
- 25 further questions.

Page 1

NAME OF CASE: In re Tesla, Inc. Securities Litigation DATE OF DEPOSITION: November 5, 2021 NAME OF WITNESS: Elon Musk Reason Codes: 1. To clarify the record. 2. To conform to the facts. 3. To correct transcription errors. Page 17 Line 23-24 Reason 3 From voting on -- voting on to verging on -- verging on Page 130 Line 7 Reason 3 From draft to drafted Page 154 Line 20 Reason 3 From the end by to Dubai Page 164 Line 12 Reason 3 From consummate to [inaudible] Page 188 Line 5 Reason 3 From would start to was not Page 196 Line 22 _ Reason 3From aerated to iterated Page 244 Line 20 Reason 3 From correct in the to correct the Page Line Reason From to

WW

1	Page 299 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
3	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
4	IN RE TESLA, INC. SECURITIES) Case No. LITIGATION) 3:18-cv-04865-EMC
5))
6))
7))
8)
9	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
10	ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
11	ELON MUSK
12	NOVEMBER 5, 2021
13	
14	I, CANDICE ANDINO, Certified Shorthand Reporter in
15	and for the State of Texas, hereby certify to the
16	following:
17	That the witness, ELON MUSK, was duly sworn by the
18	officer and that the transcript of the oral deposition
19	is a true record of the testimony given by the witness;
20	I further certify that pursuant to FRCP Rule
21	30(f)(1) that the signature of the deponent:
22	was requested by the deponent or a party
23	before the completion of the deposition and returned
24	within 30 days from date of receipt of the transcript.
25	If returned, the attached Changes and Signature Page

Page 300 1 contains changes and the reasons therefor; 2 __X_ was not requested by the deponent or a party before the completion of the deposition. I further certify that I am neither attorney nor 4 5 counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this testimony was taken. 6 7 Further, I am not a relative or employee of any attorney of record in this cause, nor do I have a 8 financial interest in the action. 10 Subscribed and sworn to on this 10th day of 11 November, 2021. 12 13 CANDICE ANDINO, Texas CSR No. 9332, RMR 14 Expiration Date: 8/31/23 TSG Reporting, Inc. Firm Registration No. 615 15 747 Third Avenue, 10th Floor 16 New York, New York 10017 (877) 702-9580 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25